

June 14, 2007

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

Dear Mr. Martin and respected members of the FCC:

I am writing to you concerning the Sirius XM merger, and would like to state up front that I am in favor of these companies combining. As a customer and fan of satellite radio I realize in order to make progress and thrive, these companies need to merge because of the competitive and ever changing market that now includes internet radio, portable music services, and regular radio... (that's right I said competitive).

To think that these two companies are only in the space of the "satellite market" is just being out of date and touch with reality. Regular radio obviously competes with satellite or else the NAB would not lobby so hard against this merger it makes no sense otherwise to do so. Also the NAB does not represent the consumer which this is all about. Too bad the argument of "what's best for the consumer" is often caught up in bureaucracy of Washington discussed by out of touch politicians and lobbyists who often have financial benefits of a decision.

The consumer has spoken over and over again on this issue and it seems two things are happening they are being ignored or don't carry the weight that NAB does (remember this is an organization that does not represent consumers). On message boards the ratio is 8 to 10 your typical consumer is in favor of the merger. You have had organizations that represent consumer groups and minorities clearly in favor of this opportunity namely the League of Rural Voters and the NYSFHSCC.

Lastly the competition that Satellite radio can put on regular radio and the portable music players is a great thing. They can be a formidable company that will only create progress for the audio entertainment sector. The concerns over price gauging are ludicrous nobody "needs" satellite radio. The market will dictate how much they can charge if they try \$30 a month people will simply say "that is 30 songs for my ipod, I would rather do that" or "I can save my money and by an HD radio and have as many channels". See the beauty of a competitive market. By the way have you checked out cars rolling off the lot today most have all three of these options available. Last time I checked I can't listen to my Ipod while listening to my radio while trying to hear satellite radio.

Sincerely,

Chris Arenburg